



# News Release

**For immediate release:** March 15, 2012

(12-030)

Contacts: Kate Lynch, Communications Office  
Donn Moyer, Communications Office

360-236-4072  
360-236-4076

## **Sexual misconduct charges prompt Benton County chiropractor's suspension**

**OLYMPIA** — The Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission and the Department of Health have immediately suspended the license of Richland chiropractor Russell Tagg (CH00002726). The Department of Health says Tagg cannot practice safely because of sexual contact with a female patient. Tagg cannot practice in Washington until the charges are resolved.

From March 2011 until September 2011, charges say that Tagg provided treatment to a female patient, and that the treatment became more inappropriate over time. In July Tagg began focusing his treatment on the patient's groin area and regularly massaged her thigh and labia. In September he asked the patient to remove her underwear for her session; he then straddled the treatment table and pulled the patient's legs up around his waist. According to the charges, he ended that session and several others by kissing her on the cheek.

Tagg has 20 days to respond to the charges and to ask for a hearing. Legal documents are available by clicking the link to [Provider Credential Search](#) on the [agency home page](#) ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) or by calling 360-236-4700.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

The [Department of Health website](#) ([www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov)) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

###